

B1 (Official Form 1)(04/13)

<b>United States Bankruptcy Court</b> <b>Northern District of Illinois</b>		<b>Voluntary Petition</b>
Name of Debtor (if individual, enter Last, First, Middle): <b>Baum, Debra L.</b>		Name of Joint Debtor (Spouse) (Last, First, Middle):
All Other Names used by the Debtor in the last 8 years (include married, maiden, and trade names): <b>AKA Debra L. Kaelin</b>		All Other Names used by the Joint Debtor in the last 8 years (include married, maiden, and trade names):
Last four digits of Soc. Sec. or Individual-Taxpayer I.D. (ITIN)/Complete EIN (if more than one, state all) <b>xxx-xx-4129</b>		Last four digits of Soc. Sec. or Individual-Taxpayer I.D. (ITIN) No./Complete EIN (if more than one, state all)
Street Address of Debtor (No. and Street, City, and State): <b>8 N 135 Ickenham Lane</b> <b>Elgin, IL</b> <div style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">ZIP Code <b>60124</b></div>		Street Address of Joint Debtor (No. and Street, City, and State): <div style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">ZIP Code</div>
County of Residence or of the Principal Place of Business: <b>Kane</b>		County of Residence or of the Principal Place of Business:
Mailing Address of Debtor (if different from street address): <div style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">ZIP Code</div>		Mailing Address of Joint Debtor (if different from street address): <div style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">ZIP Code</div>
Location of Principal Assets of Business Debtor (if different from street address above):		
<b>Type of Debtor</b> (Form of Organization) (Check one box) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Individual (includes Joint Debtors) <i>See Exhibit D on page 2 of this form.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Corporation (includes LLC and LLP) <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership <input type="checkbox"/> Other (If debtor is not one of the above entities, check this box and state type of entity below.)	<b>Nature of Business</b> (Check one box) <input type="checkbox"/> Health Care Business <input type="checkbox"/> Single Asset Real Estate as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101 (51B) <input type="checkbox"/> Railroad <input type="checkbox"/> Stockbroker <input type="checkbox"/> Commodity Broker <input type="checkbox"/> Clearing Bank <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<b>Chapter of Bankruptcy Code Under Which the Petition is Filed</b> (Check one box) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chapter 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter 11 <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter 12 <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter 13 <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter 15 Petition for Recognition of a Foreign Main Proceeding <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter 15 Petition for Recognition of a Foreign Nonmain Proceeding
<b>Chapter 15 Debtors</b> Country of debtor's center of main interests:  Each country in which a foreign proceeding by, regarding, or against debtor is pending:	<b>Tax-Exempt Entity</b> (Check box, if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Debtor is a tax-exempt organization under Title 26 of the United States Code (the Internal Revenue Code).	<b>Nature of Debts</b> (Check one box) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Debts are primarily consumer debts, defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(8) as "incurred by an individual primarily for a personal, family, or household purpose." <input type="checkbox"/> Debts are primarily business debts.
<b>Filing Fee</b> (Check one box) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full Filing Fee attached <input type="checkbox"/> Filing Fee to be paid in installments (applicable to individuals only). Must attach signed application for the court's consideration certifying that the debtor is unable to pay fee except in installments. Rule 1006(b). See Official Form 3A. <input type="checkbox"/> Filing Fee waiver requested (applicable to chapter 7 individuals only). Must attach signed application for the court's consideration. See Official Form 3B.		<b>Chapter 11 Debtors</b> Check one box: <input type="checkbox"/> Debtor is a small business debtor as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(51D). <input type="checkbox"/> Debtor is not a small business debtor as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(51D). Check if: <input type="checkbox"/> Debtor's aggregate noncontingent liquidated debts (excluding debts owed to insiders or affiliates) are less than \$2,490,925 ( <i>amount subject to adjustment on 4/01/16 and every three years thereafter</i> ). Check all applicable boxes: <input type="checkbox"/> A plan is being filed with this petition. <input type="checkbox"/> Acceptances of the plan were solicited prepetition from one or more classes of creditors, in accordance with 11 U.S.C. § 1126(b).
<b>Statistical/Administrative Information</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Debtor estimates that funds will be available for distribution to unsecured creditors. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Debtor estimates that, after any exempt property is excluded and administrative expenses paid, there will be no funds available for distribution to unsecured creditors.		THIS SPACE IS FOR COURT USE ONLY
<b>Estimated Number of Creditors</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1-49 <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99 <input type="checkbox"/> 100-199 <input type="checkbox"/> 200-999 <input type="checkbox"/> 1,000-5,000 <input type="checkbox"/> 5,001-10,000 <input type="checkbox"/> 10,001-25,000 <input type="checkbox"/> 25,001-50,000 <input type="checkbox"/> 50,001-100,000 <input type="checkbox"/> OVER 100,000		
<b>Estimated Assets</b> <input type="checkbox"/> \$0 to \$50,000 <input type="checkbox"/> \$50,001 to \$100,000 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> \$100,001 to \$500,000 <input type="checkbox"/> \$500,001 to \$1 million <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000,001 to \$10 million <input type="checkbox"/> \$10,000,001 to \$50 million <input type="checkbox"/> \$50,000,001 to \$100 million <input type="checkbox"/> \$100,000,001 to \$500 million <input type="checkbox"/> \$500,000,001 to \$1 billion <input type="checkbox"/> More than \$1 billion		
<b>Estimated Liabilities</b> <input type="checkbox"/> \$0 to \$50,000 <input type="checkbox"/> \$50,001 to \$100,000 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> \$100,001 to \$500,000 <input type="checkbox"/> \$500,001 to \$1 million <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000,001 to \$10 million <input type="checkbox"/> \$10,000,001 to \$50 million <input type="checkbox"/> \$50,000,001 to \$100 million <input type="checkbox"/> \$100,000,001 to \$500 million <input type="checkbox"/> \$500,000,001 to \$1 billion <input type="checkbox"/> More than \$1 billion		

<b>Voluntary Petition</b> <i>(This page must be completed and filed in every case)</i>		Name of Debtor(s): <b>Baum, Debra L.</b>	
<b>All Prior Bankruptcy Cases Filed Within Last 8 Years</b> (If more than two, attach additional sheet)			
Location Where Filed: <b>NDIL</b>	Case Number: <b>14-24522</b>	Date Filed: <b>7/01/14</b>	
Location Where Filed: <b>See Attachment</b>	Case Number:	Date Filed:	
<b>Pending Bankruptcy Case Filed by any Spouse, Partner, or Affiliate of this Debtor</b> (If more than one, attach additional sheet)			
Name of Debtor: <b>- None -</b>		Case Number:	
District:		Date Filed:	
Relationship:		Judge:	
<b>Exhibit A</b>  (To be completed if debtor is required to file periodic reports (e.g., forms 10K and 10Q) with the Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and is requesting relief under chapter 11.)  <input type="checkbox"/> Exhibit A is attached and made a part of this petition.		<b>Exhibit B</b> (To be completed if debtor is an individual whose debts are primarily consumer debts.) I, the attorney for the petitioner named in the foregoing petition, declare that I have informed the petitioner that [he or she] may proceed under chapter 7, 11, 12, or 13 of title 11, United States Code, and have explained the relief available under each such chapter. I further certify that I delivered to the debtor the notice required by 11 U.S.C. §342(b).  <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>/s/ Michael N. Oreluk, Associate</b>                      Signature of Attorney for Debtor(s)  <b>Michael N. Oreluk, Associate</b> </div> <div style="text-align: right;"> <b>January 8, 2015</b>                      (Date)                 </div> </div>	
<b>Exhibit C</b>			
Does the debtor own or have possession of any property that poses or is alleged to pose a threat of imminent and identifiable harm to public health or safety? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, and Exhibit C is attached and made a part of this petition. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No.			
<b>Exhibit D</b>			
(To be completed by every individual debtor. If a joint petition is filed, each spouse must complete and attach a separate Exhibit D.) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exhibit D completed and signed by the debtor is attached and made a part of this petition. If this is a joint petition: <input type="checkbox"/> Exhibit D also completed and signed by the joint debtor is attached and made a part of this petition.			
<b>Information Regarding the Debtor - Venue</b> (Check any applicable box)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Debtor has been domiciled or has had a residence, principal place of business, or principal assets in this District for 180 days immediately preceding the date of this petition or for a longer part of such 180 days than in any other District. <input type="checkbox"/> There is a bankruptcy case concerning debtor's affiliate, general partner, or partnership pending in this District. <input type="checkbox"/> Debtor is a debtor in a foreign proceeding and has its principal place of business or principal assets in the United States in this District, or has no principal place of business or assets in the United States but is a defendant in an action or proceeding [in a federal or state court] in this District, or the interests of the parties will be served in regard to the relief sought in this District.			
<b>Certification by a Debtor Who Resides as a Tenant of Residential Property</b> (Check all applicable boxes)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Landlord has a judgment against the debtor for possession of debtor's residence. (If box checked, complete the following.)  <div style="margin-left: 40px;">                 _____                  (Name of landlord that obtained judgment)             </div>  <div style="margin-left: 40px;">                 _____                  (Address of landlord)             </div>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Debtor claims that under applicable nonbankruptcy law, there are circumstances under which the debtor would be permitted to cure the entire monetary default that gave rise to the judgment for possession, after the judgment for possession was entered, and <input type="checkbox"/> Debtor has included with this petition the deposit with the court of any rent that would become due during the 30-day period after the filing of the petition. <input type="checkbox"/> Debtor certifies that he/she has served the Landlord with this certification. (11 U.S.C. § 362(l)).			

## Voluntary Petition

(This page must be completed and filed in every case)

Name of Debtor(s):  
**Baum, Debra L.**

### Signatures

#### Signature(s) of Debtor(s) (Individual/Joint)

I declare under penalty of perjury that the information provided in this petition is true and correct.  
[If petitioner is an individual whose debts are primarily consumer debts and has chosen to file under chapter 7] I am aware that I may proceed under chapter 7, 11, 12, or 13 of title 11, United States Code, understand the relief available under each such chapter, and choose to proceed under chapter 7.  
[If no attorney represents me and no bankruptcy petition preparer signs the petition] I have obtained and read the notice required by 11 U.S.C. §342(b).

I request relief in accordance with the chapter of title 11, United States Code, specified in this petition.

**X** /s/ Debra L. Baum

Signature of Debtor **Debra L. Baum**

**X** \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Joint Debtor

Telephone Number (If not represented by attorney)

**January 8, 2015**

Date

#### Signature of Attorney\*

**X** /s/ Michael N. Oreluk, Associate

Signature of Attorney for Debtor(s)

**Michael N. Oreluk, Associate Schaller Law Firm PC**

Printed Name of Attorney for Debtor(s)

**Schaller Law Firm, P.C.**

Firm Name

**Oak Brook Pointe  
700 Commerce Drive, Suite 500  
Oak Brook, IL 60523**

Address

**630-655-1233**

Telephone Number

**January 8, 2015**

Date

\*In a case in which § 707(b)(4)(D) applies, this signature also constitutes a certification that the attorney has no knowledge after an inquiry that the information in the schedules is incorrect.

#### Signature of Debtor (Corporation/Partnership)

I declare under penalty of perjury that the information provided in this petition is true and correct, and that I have been authorized to file this petition on behalf of the debtor.

The debtor requests relief in accordance with the chapter of title 11, United States Code, specified in this petition.

**X** \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Authorized Individual

Printed Name of Authorized Individual

Title of Authorized Individual

Date

#### Signature of a Foreign Representative

I declare under penalty of perjury that the information provided in this petition is true and correct, that I am the foreign representative of a debtor in a foreign proceeding, and that I am authorized to file this petition.

(Check only one box.)

☐ I request relief in accordance with chapter 15 of title 11, United States Code. Certified copies of the documents required by 11 U.S.C. §1515 are attached.

☐ Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §1511, I request relief in accordance with the chapter of title 11 specified in this petition. A certified copy of the order granting recognition of the foreign main proceeding is attached.

**X** \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Foreign Representative

Printed Name of Foreign Representative

Date

#### Signature of Non-Attorney Bankruptcy Petition Preparer

I declare under penalty of perjury that: (1) I am a bankruptcy petition preparer as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 110; (2) I prepared this document for compensation and have provided the debtor with a copy of this document and the notices and information required under 11 U.S.C. §§ 110(b), 110(h), and 342(b); and, (3) if rules or guidelines have been promulgated pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 110(h) setting a maximum fee for services chargeable by bankruptcy petition preparers, I have given the debtor notice of the maximum amount before preparing any document for filing for a debtor or accepting any fee from the debtor, as required in that section. Official Form 19 is attached.

Printed Name and title, if any, of Bankruptcy Petition Preparer

Social-Security number (If the bankruptcy petition preparer is not an individual, state the Social Security number of the officer, principal, responsible person or partner of the bankruptcy petition preparer.) (Required by 11 U.S.C. § 110.)

Address

**X** \_\_\_\_\_

Date

Signature of bankruptcy petition preparer or officer, principal, responsible person, or partner whose Social Security number is provided above.

Names and Social-Security numbers of all other individuals who prepared or assisted in preparing this document unless the bankruptcy petition preparer is not an individual:

If more than one person prepared this document, attach additional sheets conforming to the appropriate official form for each person.

*A bankruptcy petition preparer's failure to comply with the provisions of title 11 and the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure may result in fines or imprisonment or both. 11 U.S.C. §110; 18 U.S.C. §156.*

In re Debra L. Baum, Case No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Debtor

**FORM 1. VOLUNTARY PETITION**  
**Prior Bankruptcy Cases Filed Attachment**

<u>Location Where Filed</u>	<u>Case Number</u>	<u>Date Filed</u>
NDIL	13-00810	01/09/13
NDIL	12-39470	10/04/12

In re ..

Debtor(s)

Case No.

**FORM 1. VOLUNTARY PETITION**  
**Attachment A**

**DEBTOR(S)' REPRESENTATIONS & RESPONSIBILITIES:**

1. Debtor understands that it is Debtor's responsibility to promptly tender a security deposit to all utility companies.
2. Debtor understands that it is Debtor's responsibility to provide copies of the 2011, 2010, 2009 and 2008 federal tax returns. Debtor has agreed to tender these tax returns to debtor's counsel by Federal Express no later than 10 days before the date first set for the first meeting of creditors (Section 341 meeting). Debtor has agreed to tender these tax returns directly to the Chapter 13 Trustee by Federal Express no later than 7 days before the date first set for the first meeting of creditors (Section 341 meeting), unless said tax returns were Federal Expressed to debtor's counsel no later than 10 days before the Section 341 meeting. Debtor understands further that the court could dismiss the case if the tax returns are not tendered on a timely basis.
3. Debtor understands that it is Debtor's responsibility to provide copies of (a) all payment advices or other evidence of income received within 60 days before the date of the filing of the bankruptcy petition by the debtor from any employer of the debtor, and (b) proof of any 1099 or self employed income within 60 days before the date of the filing of the petition (hereinafter, collectively the "Payment Advices") . Said Payment Advices shall be provided to the trustee (or, if no trustee has been appointed to the United States trustee), and to any creditor who timely requests copies of the payment advices or other evidence of payment, at least seven days before the time of the meeting of creditors conducted pursuant to 11 U.S.C. Section 341. Debtor has agreed to tender said Payment Advices to debtor's counsel by Federal Express no later than 10 days before the date first set for the first meeting of creditors (Section 341 meeting). Debtor has agreed to tender said Payment Advices directly to the Chapter 13 Trustee and any requesting creditor by Federal Express no later than 7 days before the date first set for the first meeting of creditors (Section 341 meeting), unless said Payment Advices were Federal Expressed to debtor's counsel no later than 10 days before the Section 341 meeting. Debtor understands further that the court could dismiss the case if said Payment Advices are not tendered on a timely basis.
4. Debtor understands that it is Debtor's responsibility to complete an instructional course concerning personal financial management before the conclusion of the repayment plan. After completion of the instructional course, Debtor has agreed to tender a certificate of completion to debtor's counsel by Federal Express. Debtor has also agreed to file the certificate of completion with the Clerk of the US Bankruptcy Court at 219 S. Dearborn, Chicago, IL 60604, unless a copy of said certificate is tendered to debtor's counsel via email or Federal Express and received at least 7 days prior to the case being closed. Debtor understands further that no discharge will be granted without the filing of said certificate of completion with the Clerk of the US Bankruptcy Court on a timely basis.
5. Debtor understands that prior to the final Chapter 13 plan payment debtor must complete and tender to debtor's counsel a "Declaration re Domestic Support Obligations" certifying that either (a) "During the pendency of this bankruptcy, I have not been required to pay a domestic support obligation by any order of a court or administrative agency or by any statute", or (b) "During the pendency of this bankruptcy case, I have paid all domestic support obligations that have become due under any order of a court, or administrative agency or under any statute. Debtor further understands that this declaration must be signed under penalty of perjury. Finally, debtor has been advised that the failure to complete and file said declaration would result in debtor not receiving a Chapter 13 discharge of debts.

B 1D (Official Form 1, Exhibit D) (12/09)

**United States Bankruptcy Court  
Northern District of Illinois**

In re Debra L. Baum

Debtor(s)

Case No.  
Chapter

7

**EXHIBIT D - INDIVIDUAL DEBTOR'S STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH  
CREDIT COUNSELING REQUIREMENT**

**Warning: You must be able to check truthfully one of the five statements regarding credit counseling listed below. If you cannot do so, you are not eligible to file a bankruptcy case, and the court can dismiss any case you do file. If that happens, you will lose whatever filing fee you paid, and your creditors will be able to resume collection activities against you. If your case is dismissed and you file another bankruptcy case later, you may be required to pay a second filing fee and you may have to take extra steps to stop creditors' collection activities.**

*Every individual debtor must file this Exhibit D. If a joint petition is filed, each spouse must complete and file a separate Exhibit D. Check one of the five statements below and attach any documents as directed.*

☒ 1. Within the 180 days **before the filing of my bankruptcy case**, I received a briefing from a credit counseling agency approved by the United States trustee or bankruptcy administrator that outlined the opportunities for available credit counseling and assisted me in performing a related budget analysis, and I have a certificate from the agency describing the services provided to me. *Attach a copy of the certificate and a copy of any debt repayment plan developed through the agency.*

☐ 2. Within the 180 days **before the filing of my bankruptcy case**, I received a briefing from a credit counseling agency approved by the United States trustee or bankruptcy administrator that outlined the opportunities for available credit counseling and assisted me in performing a related budget analysis, but I do not have a certificate from the agency describing the services provided to me. *You must file a copy of a certificate from the agency describing the services provided to you and a copy of any debt repayment plan developed through the agency no later than 14 days after your bankruptcy case is filed.*

☐ 3. I certify that I requested credit counseling services from an approved agency but was unable to obtain the services during the seven days from the time I made my request, and the following exigent circumstances merit a temporary waiver of the credit counseling requirement so I can file my bankruptcy case now. *[Summarize exigent circumstances here.]* \_\_\_\_\_

**If your certification is satisfactory to the court, you must still obtain the credit counseling briefing within the first 30 days after you file your bankruptcy petition and promptly file a certificate from the agency that provided the counseling, together with a copy of any debt management plan developed through the agency. Failure to fulfill these requirements may result in dismissal of your case. Any extension of the 30-day deadline can be granted only for cause and is limited to a maximum of 15 days. Your case may also be dismissed if the court is not satisfied with your reasons for filing your bankruptcy case without first receiving a credit counseling briefing.**

☐ 4. I am not required to receive a credit counseling briefing because of: *[Check the applicable statement.] [Must be accompanied by a motion for determination by the court.]*

☐ Incapacity. (Defined in 11 U.S.C. § 109(h)(4) as impaired by reason of mental illness or mental deficiency so as to be incapable of realizing and making rational decisions with respect to financial responsibilities.);

☐ Disability. (Defined in 11 U.S.C. § 109(h)(4) as physically impaired to the extent of being unable, after reasonable effort, to participate in a credit counseling briefing in person, by telephone, or through the Internet.);

☐ Active military duty in a military combat zone.

☐ 5. The United States trustee or bankruptcy administrator has determined that the credit counseling requirement of 11 U.S.C. § 109(h) does not apply in this district.

**I certify under penalty of perjury that the information provided above is true and correct.**

Signature of Debtor: /s/ Debra L. Baum  
Debra L. Baum

Date: January 8, 2015

United States Bankruptcy Court  
Northern District of Illinois

In re Debra L. Baum

Debtor(s)

Case No.

Chapter

7

**DISCLOSURE OF COMPENSATION OF ATTORNEY FOR DEBTOR(S)**

1. Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 329(a) and Bankruptcy Rule 2016(b), I certify that I am the attorney for the above-named debtor and that compensation paid to me within one year before the filing of the petition in bankruptcy, or agreed to be paid to me, for services rendered or to be rendered on behalf of the debtor(s) in contemplation of or in connection with the bankruptcy case is as follows:

For legal services, I have agreed to accept .....	\$	<u>2,000.00</u>
Prior to the filing of this statement I have received .....	\$	<u>1,665.00</u>
Balance Due .....	\$	<u>335.00</u>

2. The source of the compensation paid to me was:

☒ Debtor ☐ Other (specify):

3. The source of compensation to be paid to me is:

☒ Debtor ☐ Other (specify):

4. ☒ I have not agreed to share the above-disclosed compensation with any other person unless they are members and associates of my law firm.

☐ I have agreed to share the above-disclosed compensation with a person or persons who are not members or associates of my law firm. A copy of the agreement, together with a list of the names of the people sharing in the compensation is attached.

5. In return for the above-disclosed fee, I have agreed to render legal service for all aspects of the bankruptcy case, including:

- a. Preparation and filing of any petition, schedules, statement of affairs and plan which may be required;
- b. Representation of the debtor at the meeting of creditors and confirmation hearing, and any adjourned hearings thereof;
- c. [Other provisions as needed]

**all items identified in the engagement letter.**

6. By agreement with the debtor(s), the above-disclosed fee does not include the following service:

**excludes all items not specifically included in the engagement letter.**

**CERTIFICATION**

I certify that the foregoing is a complete statement of any agreement or arrangement for payment to me for representation of the debtor(s) in this bankruptcy proceeding.

Dated: January 8, 2015

/s/ Michael N. Oreluk, Associate

**Michael N. Oreluk, Associate**

**Schaller Law Firm, P.C.**

**Oak Brook Pointe**

**700 Commerce Drive, Suite 500**

**Oak Brook, IL 60523**

**630-655-1233**



Document Page 9 of 15  
**SCHALLER LAW FIRM, P.C.**  
**ATTORNEYS AT LAW**

700 Commerce Drive  
Suite 500  
Oak Brook, IL 60523

tel: 630-655-1233  
email: [SchallerLawFirm@gmail.com](mailto:SchallerLawFirm@gmail.com)  
web: [www.SchallerLawFirm.com](http://www.SchallerLawFirm.com)

January 8, 2015

Debra Baum  
8 N 135 Ickenham Lane  
Elgin, IL 60124

Re: CHAPTER 7 ENGAGEMENT LETTER

Dear Debra:

READ THIS AGREEMENT AND THE ATTACHED DOCUMENTS CAREFULLY 3 TIMES BEFORE SIGNING. DO NOT SIGN IF YOU ARE CONFUSED BY ANY TERM OR OBLIGATION.

My policy at the outset of a new engagement is to outline not only the nature of the project, but also the basis on which I will provide legal services and bill for them.

1. Compensation: You agree to prepay the Schaller Law Firm ("Firm") a flat, fixed-fee of \$2,000 for the Chapter 7 services set forth in the paragraph labeled "Scope of Flat-Fee Engagement," after any and all discounts. Plus, you agree to prepay to the Firm the following: (1) petition filing fee of \$335. Please note that any payment received by the Firm shall be treated as an advance payment, allowing the Firm to take the retainer into income immediately. The reason for this treatment is that (a) the total payment for the services identified in paragraph No. 1 above is anticipated to equal the amount of the retainer; (b) the project shall be of a fixed duration and not anticipated to extend beyond 90-120 days; and (c) no refunds shall be given. In addition to the Flat-Fee Engagement, you agree to pay the Firm an hourly fee of \$495 with a \$3,800 retainer for all other Chapter 7 related services not included in the Scope of Flat-Fee Engagement, including without limitation, any services relating to Rule 2004 examinations, motions to determine dischargeability, and motions to dismiss; you authorize the Firm attorneys to withdraw if you fail to pay the retainer or fail to pay any invoice within 30 days of issuance.

2. Scope of Flat-Fee Engagement: You have asked the Firm to assist you in filing a Chapter 7 bankruptcy petition. In this regard, the Firm will provide the following professional services:

- a. Represent you only. The Firm does not represent any spouse or intended beneficiaries.
- b. Advise you about the differences between bankruptcy Chapters 7, 11, 12, and 13.
- c. Advise you about your bankruptcy rights and responsibilities/obligations that arise both before filing bankruptcy and arise after the bankruptcy case is filed.
- d. Inform you about exempt assets, unsecured debt, and secured debt.
- e. Confer with you at the initial meeting and review paystubs tendered to me by you.
- f. Prepare draft petition, draft schedules, draft statement of affairs, and draft means test.
- g. Represent you at the initial Section 341 meeting of creditors (through me personally or through a representative).
- h. Inform you about reaffirmation agreements.
- i. Provide a draft Section 707 "means test" calculation.

3. Services Outside Scope of Engagement: The scope of the Firm's representation is limited to the bankruptcy services set forth above. By way of example, the Firm has not been engaged to represent you in

Signed: Debra Baum Print Name: Debra Baum

any tax issue, adversary proceeding, or appeal. The Firm has also not been engaged to file any motion to avoid a lien.

4. No Tax or Accounting Services: The Firm has NOT been engaged to provide any tax or accounting service. No tax returns will be prepared. No tax advice will be given. You are urged to engage an unrelated tax attorney or tax accountant to provide tax advice or prepare tax returns.
5. No Student Loan Advice: The Firm has NOT been engaged to provide any student loan advice. You are urged to engage an unrelated student loan attorney to provide student loan advice prior to filing bankruptcy. You may be denied the right to obtain student loans if you file bankruptcy.
6. Home: No guarantee is provided. Chapter 7 is NOT designed to establish a repayment plan and you will NOT be allowed to prevent foreclosure or keep your home by filing this Chapter 7 bankruptcy.
7. Non-filing Spouse: If you are married, you have a choice to file bankruptcy in your name alone (i.e. "individually") or together with your spouse, if married (i.e. "jointly"). A spouse who is not added to the bankruptcy petition does NOT enjoy bankruptcy protection or benefits. Specifically, the non-filing spouse will not receive a "discharge" of any debts. Plus, the non-filing spouse will not be protected by the automatic stay and creditors of the non-filing spouse will be allowed to seek all legal remedies against the non-filing spouse.

If these arrangements meet with your approval, please sign this engagement letter and return it to the Firm with your retainer. Please do not sign this engagement letter if you are confused or do not understand any term. Before signing, I urge you to engage a different attorney to review and explain each and every provision.

Best Wishes,

SCHALLER LAW FIRM, P.C.

*Bob*

Michael N. Oreluk, Associate Attorney

READ THIS AGREEMENT CAREFULLY 3 TIMES BEFORE SIGNING. DO NOT SIGN IF YOU ARE CONFUSED BY ANY TERM OR OBLIGATION.

Signed: Debra Baum Print Name: Debra Baum

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS  
NOTICE TO CONSUMER DEBTOR(S) UNDER § 342(b)  
OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE**

In accordance with § 342(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, this notice to individuals with primarily consumer debts: (1) Describes briefly the services available from credit counseling services; (2) Describes briefly the purposes, benefits and costs of the four types of bankruptcy proceedings you may commence; and (3) Informs you about bankruptcy crimes and notifies you that the Attorney General may examine all information you supply in connection with a bankruptcy case.

You are cautioned that bankruptcy law is complicated and not easily described. Thus, you may wish to seek the advice of an attorney to learn of your rights and responsibilities should you decide to file a petition. Court employees cannot give you legal advice.

Notices from the bankruptcy court are sent to the mailing address you list on your bankruptcy petition. In order to ensure that you receive information about events concerning your case, Bankruptcy Rule 4002 requires that you notify the court of any changes in your address. If you are filing a **joint case** (a single bankruptcy case for two individuals married to each other), and each spouse lists the same mailing address on the bankruptcy petition, you and your spouse will generally receive a single copy of each notice mailed from the bankruptcy court in a jointly-addressed envelope, unless you file a statement with the court requesting that each spouse receive a separate copy of all notices.

**1. Services Available from Credit Counseling Agencies**

**With limited exceptions, § 109(h) of the Bankruptcy Code requires that all individual debtors who file for bankruptcy relief on or after October 17, 2005, receive a briefing that outlines the available opportunities for credit counseling and provides assistance in performing a budget analysis.** The briefing must be given within 180 days **before** the bankruptcy filing. The briefing may be provided individually or in a group (including briefings conducted by telephone or on the Internet) and must be provided by a nonprofit budget and credit counseling agency approved by the United States trustee or bankruptcy administrator. The clerk of the bankruptcy court has a list that you may consult of the approved budget and credit counseling agencies. Each debtor in a joint case must complete the briefing.

**In addition, after filing a bankruptcy case, an individual debtor generally must complete a financial management instructional course before he or she can receive a discharge.** The clerk also has a list of approved financial management instructional courses. Each debtor in a joint case must complete the course.

**2. The Four Chapters of the Bankruptcy Code Available to Individual Consumer Debtors**

**Chapter 7: Liquidation (\$245 filing fee, \$75 administrative fee, \$15 trustee surcharge: Total Fee \$335)**

Chapter 7 is designed for debtors in financial difficulty who do not have the ability to pay their existing debts. Debtors whose debts are primarily consumer debts are subject to a "means test" designed to determine whether the case should be permitted to proceed under chapter 7. If your income is greater than the median income for your state of residence and family size, in some cases, the United States trustee (or bankruptcy administrator), the trustee, or creditors have the right to file a motion requesting that the court dismiss your case under § 707(b) of the Code. It is up to the court to decide whether the case should be dismissed.

Under chapter 7, you may claim certain of your property as exempt under governing law. A trustee may have the right to take possession of and sell the remaining property that is not exempt and use the sale proceeds to pay your creditors.

The purpose of filing a chapter 7 case is to obtain a discharge of your existing debts. If, however, you are found to have committed certain kinds of improper conduct described in the Bankruptcy Code, the court may deny your discharge and, if it does, the purpose for which you filed the bankruptcy petition will be defeated.

Even if you receive a general discharge, some particular debts are not discharged under the law. Therefore, you may still be responsible for most taxes and student loans; debts incurred to pay nondischargeable taxes; domestic support and property settlement obligations; most fines, penalties, forfeitures, and criminal restitution obligations; certain debts which are not properly listed in your bankruptcy papers; and debts for death or personal injury caused by operating a motor vehicle, vessel, or aircraft while intoxicated from alcohol or drugs. Also, if a creditor can prove that a debt arose from fraud, breach of fiduciary duty, or theft, or from a willful and malicious injury, the bankruptcy court may determine that the debt is not discharged.

**Chapter 13: Repayment of All or Part of the Debts of an Individual with Regular Income (\$235 filing fee, \$75 administrative fee: Total Fee \$310)**

Chapter 13 is designed for individuals with regular income who would like to pay all or part of their debts in installments over a period of time. You are only eligible for chapter 13 if your debts do not exceed certain dollar amounts set forth in the

**Bankruptcy Code.**

Under chapter 13, you must file with the court a plan to repay your creditors all or part of the money that you owe them, using your future earnings. The period allowed by the court to repay your debts may be three years or five years, depending upon your income and other factors. The court must approve your plan before it can take effect.

After completing the payments under your plan, your debts are generally discharged except for domestic support obligations; most student loans; certain taxes; most criminal fines and restitution obligations; certain debts which are not properly listed in your bankruptcy papers; certain debts for acts that caused death or personal injury; and certain long term secured obligations.

**Chapter 11: Reorganization (\$1,167 filing fee, \$550 administrative fee: Total Fee \$1,717)**

Chapter 11 is designed for the reorganization of a business but is also available to consumer debtors. Its provisions are quite complicated, and any decision by an individual to file a chapter 11 petition should be reviewed with an attorney.

**Chapter 12: Family Farmer or Fisherman (\$200 filing fee, \$75 administrative fee: Total Fee \$275)**

Chapter 12 is designed to permit family farmers and fishermen to repay their debts over a period of time from future earnings and is similar to chapter 13. The eligibility requirements are restrictive, limiting its use to those whose income arises primarily from a family-owned farm or commercial fishing operation.

**3. Bankruptcy Crimes and Availability of Bankruptcy Papers to Law Enforcement Officials**

A person who knowingly and fraudulently conceals assets or makes a false oath or statement under penalty of perjury, either orally or in writing, in connection with a bankruptcy case is subject to a fine, imprisonment, or both. All information supplied by a debtor in connection with a bankruptcy case is subject to examination by the Attorney General acting through the Office of the United States Trustee, the Office of the United States Attorney, and other components and employees of the Department of Justice.

**WARNING:** Section 521(a)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code requires that you promptly file detailed information regarding your creditors, assets, liabilities, income, expenses and general financial condition. Your bankruptcy case may be dismissed if this information is not filed with the court within the time deadlines set by the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, and the local rules of the court. The documents and the deadlines for filing them are listed on Form B200, which is posted at [http://www.uscourts.gov/bkforms/bankruptcy\\_forms.html#procedure](http://www.uscourts.gov/bkforms/bankruptcy_forms.html#procedure).

B 201B (Form 201B) (12/09)

**United States Bankruptcy Court  
Northern District of Illinois**

In re Debra L. Baum

Debtor(s)

Case No. \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter 7

**CERTIFICATION OF NOTICE TO CONSUMER DEBTOR(S)  
UNDER § 342(b) OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE**

**Certification of Debtor**

I (We), the debtor(s), affirm that I (we) have received and read the attached notice, as required by § 342(b) of the Bankruptcy Code.

Debra L. Baum

Printed Name(s) of Debtor(s)

X /s/ Debra L. Baum

Signature of Debtor

January 8, 2015

Date

Case No. (if known) \_\_\_\_\_

X \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Joint Debtor (if any)

Date

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**Instructions:** Attach a copy of Form B 201 A, Notice to Consumer Debtor(s) Under § 342(b) of the Bankruptcy Code.

Use this form to certify that the debtor has received the notice required by 11 U.S.C. § 342(b) **only** if the certification has **NOT** been made on the Voluntary Petition, Official Form B1. Exhibit B on page 2 of Form B1 contains a certification by the debtor's attorney that the attorney has given the notice to the debtor. The Declarations made by debtors and bankruptcy petition preparers on page 3 of Form B1 also include this certification.

**United States Bankruptcy Court  
Northern District of Illinois**

In re **Debra L. Baum**

Debtor(s)

Case No.

Chapter

**7**

**VERIFICATION OF CREDITOR MATRIX**

Number of Creditors: **21**

The above-named Debtor(s) hereby verifies that the list of creditors is true and correct to the best of my (our) knowledge.

Date: **January 8, 2015**

**/s/ Debra L. Baum**

**Debra L. Baum**

Signature of Debtor

Michael N. Oreluk, Associate  
Schaller Law Firm, P.C.  
Oak Brook Pointe  
700 Commerce Drive, Suite 500  
Oak Brook, IL 60523

ComED (Commonwealth Edison Co)  
Bankruptcy Department  
3 Lincoln Center  
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181

Sears/Cbna  
Po Box 6189  
Sioux Falls, SD 57117

Debra L. Baum  
8 N 135 Ickenham Lane  
Elgin, IL 60124

Discovr Cd  
Po Box15316 Att:Cms/Prod Develop  
Wilmington, DE 19850-5316

State Farm Financial S  
3 State Farm Plaza N-4  
Bloomington, IL 61791

Aspire  
Po Box 105555  
Atlanta, GA 30348-5555

First Mutual Savings B  
16900 Redmond Way  
Redmond, WA 98052

Trident Asset Manageme  
5755 Northpoint Pkwy Ste  
Alpharetta, GA 30022

Bank of America  
c/o Brian T. Moynihan, CEO  
100 N. Tryon Street  
Charlotte, NC 28255

First Premier Bank  
601 S Minnesota Ave  
Sioux Falls, SD 57104

Bank Of America, N.A. (VIA FAX)  
c/o Law Offices of Ira T. Nevel  
175 N. Franklin, #201  
Chicago, IL 60606

Frank W. Baum  
8 N 135 Ickenham Lane  
Elgin, IL 60124

Bankruptcy Notices  
c/o Robert Schaller  
700 Commerce Drive, #500  
Oak Brook, IL 60523

Gecrb/Jcp  
Po Box 984100  
El Paso, TX 79998

Ccs/First National Ban  
500 E 60th St N  
Sioux Falls, SD 57104

Illinois Department of Public Aid  
Division of Child Support Enforcem.  
509 S. 6th Street, 6th Floor  
Springfield, IL 62701

Chase  
Po Box 901076  
Ft Worth, TX 76101

Merrick Bank  
Po Box 9201  
Old Bethpage, NY 11804

Chase  
2500 Westfield Dr  
Elgin, IL 60124

Nicor  
PO BOX 416  
Aurora, IL 60507